

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A system for automatically summarizing company innovations, the system using intelligent agents to automatically perform searches on the Internet to find competing or encroaching ideas, the system generating reports which list potential competitive strengths or weaknesses.

2. A system for streamlining the process of creating, preserving and protecting proprietary assets, wherein the system identifies, classifies, compiles, tracks and routes real-time data automatically on a continuous basis, and provides instant access to stored database information, such as trade secret archives, patent filings, computed valuations, user information and a variety of detailed reports, further wherein an employee has instant access to her latest innovations and proprietary materials, and constant supervision over them.

3. The system of Claim 1 further comprising a query engine to determine and report some or all of the ideas that an individual has submitted over a selected time period.

4. The system of Claim 4 further wherein employee performance, overall corporate innovation levels, and qualified and motivated employees are measured and determined in accordance with the innovations entered by employees into the system.

5. The system of Claim 1 further wherein the employee enters hours spent, along with other resources that contributed to the innovation, so that IP assets can be assigned tangible values and tracked on the company's balance sheet.

6. The system of Claim 1 further wherein employees enter their intellectual creations (documents, ideas, schematics, etc.) and receive an immediate, time/date certification therefor.

7. The system of Claim 6, further wherein the employee can link more details on each submission, and other users can email comments and suggestions directly to the author, or optionally submit their own improvements as a new or supplemental innovation.

8. A system for web based development and exploitation of IP, the system comprising:

- a. an innovator attraction module;
- b. a developer attraction module;

c. a registration module;

d. a match module;

whereby the registration module is adapted to accept and store data related to an innovator and the innovator's innovation in an innovation database, and further

5 whereby the match module is adapted to match a registered innovation and innovator with a developer having stated requirements and resources for development.

9. The system of Claim 8, wherein the database is operably stored for random retrieval on a storage medium.

10 10. The system of Claim 8, further wherein updates and changes to innovation related data are also stored in the innovation database.

11. The system of Claim 8, further wherein the match module is adapted to match one or more innovations with one or more developers.

12. The system of Claim 8, further comprising a tracking module, whereby any status or outcome of any matching activity related to the innovation is made available
15 to a user.

13. The system of Claim 12, wherein any status or outcome of any matching activity related to the innovation is also operably stored in a tracking database for later retrieval by a user.

14. The system of Claim 13, wherein status or outcome of matching activity is fed
20 for storage to the innovation database.

15. The system of Claim 14 wherein the innovation database and the tracking database are interoperably connected for data sharing.

16. The system of Claim 15, wherein at least one module resides on a computing device.

25 17. The system of Claim 16, wherein at least one different module resides on a different computing device, and the two computing devices are interconnected for data communication over an information network.

18. The system of Claim 17, wherein the information network is a global information network.